

15818

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Replace the paragraph beginning on Page 1, Line 15 with the following new paragraph:

A' A problem with an elevator car door suspension system having moving flexible ropes and wheels is that it is difficult to adjust and, thus, very expensive. Another drawback is due to stability and maintenance problems.

Replace the paragraph beginning on Page 3, Line 12 with the following new paragraph:

A<sup>2</sup> As shown in Fig. 3, the bracket 8 is attached to an end area of the strip 12, and the system includes a second bracket 8' (Figs. 2 and 3) attached to the other end area of the strip 12. There is positioned in the space between the brackets 8 and 8' an elongated primary 15 (Fig. 1) of a linear motor, which preferably is a permanent magnet flat linear synchronous motor (PM-FLSM). Under the rail or in the flat plate 3 (FIG. 1) a magnetic way 16 is mounted which has at least approximately the same length as the required door travel. Such magnetic way 16 may be a magnetic track using magnets 16a, which may be rare earth permanent magnets, such as neodymium-iron-boron (NdFeB), cobalt, samarium or cheap hard permanent ferrite magnets disposed with alternating magnetic polarities. As shown in Fig. 1, the flat plate 3 has recesses 17 for receiving the magnet assemblies 16a of the magnetic way 16.

Replace the paragraph beginning on Page 5, Line 18 with the following new paragraph:

A<sup>3</sup> Although an open linear guide is disclosed, a closed linear guide or block 10 is also possible for this door suspension system. In a simplified embodiment of the invention without a motor, the primary may be replaced by a simple back iron. If the guide means 10 and 10' are made from a sliding synthetic material, for example the ~~Igus with Iglidur~~ igus iglide J plastic material, the bearings 18 may be eliminated, and in this case the diameter of the opening 11 should be smaller, specifically, it must fit the rail or other equivalent element 4. Generally speaking, the guide means may or may not include the bearing 18.

15818

Replace the paragraph beginning on Page 5, Line 26 with the following new paragraph:

a4 It is an advantage of the present invention, that the use of a PM synchronous motor combined with a ~~hall-effect~~ position (Hall effect) sensor achieves a very precise absolute positioning of the door panels as well as a re-initialization if needed.